

COVID19 Testing Opportunities for K-12 Schools During 2021-2022 School Year



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COVID19 Testing Opportunities for K-12 Schools

Diagnostic Testing: ONGOING!

- SDDOH will continue to offer Abbott BinaxNOW resources in support of COVID19 testing for symptomatic students and adults in K-12 schools.
- Resources include Abbott BinaxNOW antigen tests, personal protective equipment, reporting through SDDOH website, contact tracing support, and technical support needed to build and/or sustain a diagnostic testing program.

COVID19 Screening: NEW!!

- SDDOH will replace the Sentinel Surveillance Program with a COVID19 Screening Program for asymptomatic students and adults in K-12 schools.
- In this presentation, SDDOH will propose a turn-key program for K-12 schools that will be staffed by contractors who will perform specimen collection, testing, and reporting for K-12 schools enrolled in the COVID19 Screening Program.

Why Diagnostic and Screening Programs??

COVID19 Diagnostic Testing:

- Focused on symptomatic individuals
- Allows quick decision-making and isolation of individuals with COVID19
- Helps immediately reduce opportunities for COVID19 spread
- Helps direct students and staff to a healthcare provider for additional care
- All testing supplies and PPE from SDDOH
- Coordination through SDDOE
- Specimen collection, testing, and reporting performed by schools

COVID19 Screening:

- Focuses on asymptomatic individuals
- Provides weekly testing for all participants
- Helps suppress spread of COVID19 by identifying individuals with asymptomatic or presymptomatic infections
- Supplies provided by contracted testing teams or SDDOH
- Schools partner with SDDOE for enrollment with ongoing coordination through testing teams
- Specimen collection, testing, and reporting performed by testing teams


COVID19 Diagnostic Testing Program Review

- **Test:** Abbott BinaxNOW Antigen Card
- **Target Population:** Symptomatic adults and children
- **Participation:** Voluntary
- **Specimen:** Nasal Swab
- **Collection Method:** Self-Collected or Adult-Collected
- **Location:** On-Site
- **Time-To-Result:** Approximately 20 minutes
- **Results:** Positive (+), Negative (-), or Invalid
- **Reporting:** SDDOH Website
- **Contact Tracing:** Partnership with SDDOH; possible testing team support



COVID19 Diagnostic Testing Program Review

1. **Consent:** Establish a testing consent process in consultation with legal counsel; SDDOH has a written consent template for use.
2. **Location:** Identify a location in your facility to perform testing that is away from high-traffic areas, allows easy access, and can be sanitized between each test performed.
3. **Training:** Train staff to perform the Abbott BinaxNOW COVID antigen test using the included control materials; training documentation forms are available from Abbott.

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION AND INFORMED CONSENT TO COVID-19 TESTING

Name: _____ DOB: _____
Address: _____ Phone Number: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please carefully read and sign the following Informed Consent:

1. I authorize this COVID-19 testing unit to conduct specimen collection and laboratory testing for COVID-19 through nasal swab, as ordered by an authorized medical provider or public health official.
2. I authorize my test results to be disclosed to the South Dakota Department of Health and School District Contact.
3. I acknowledge that a positive test result is an indication that I must self-isolate and/or wear a mask or face covering as directed to avoid infecting others.
4. I understand the South Dakota Department of Health is not acting as my medical provider, this testing does not replace treatment by my medical provider, and I assume complete and full responsibility to take appropriate action with regard to my test results. I agree I will seek medical advice, care and treatment from my medical provider if I have questions or concerns, or if my condition worsens.
5. I understand that, as with any medical test, there is the potential for a false positive or false negative COVID-19 test result.
6. I, the undersigned, have been informed about the test purpose, procedures, possible benefits and risks. I have been given the opportunity to ask questions before I sign, and I have been told that I can ask additional questions at any time. I voluntarily agree to this testing for COVID-19.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Person to be tested (If minor, parent or guardian signature)

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COVID19 Diagnostic Testing Program Review

4. **Specimen Collection and Testing:** Provide testing to individuals who are symptomatic using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and with strict adherence to the Abbott BinaxNOW test instructions.
5. **Waste Management:** Dispose of infectious waste including PPE and used test materials safely and immediately.
6. **Data Reporting:** Report all data to the South Dakota Department of Health using the department's [online disease reporting tool](#).

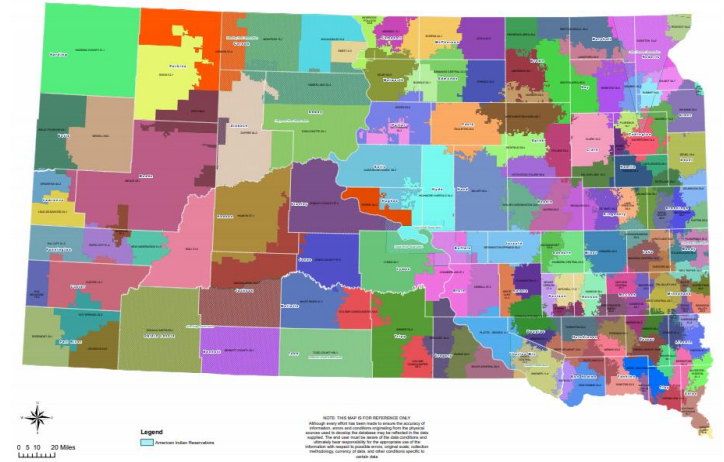


COVID19 Screening Program Overview

- The COVID19 Screening Program was designed to be a “turn-key” program that makes surveillance testing of asymptomatic individuals more convenient for K-12 schools.
- The COVID19 Screening Program will provide the following services:
 - Staffing, PPE, and supplies to support all program elements from consent to specimen collection to reporting for asymptomatic individuals
 - Collection of nasal specimens (with K-12 staff support)
 - Testing using a FDA EUA approved antigen test (24 turn-around time guaranteed; goal is same-day)
 - Result reporting to the school, SD Department of Health, and parent/guardian (if student)
 - Management of waste generated during specimen collection and testing

COVID19 Screening Program: School Enrollment

- District/school participation in the COVID19 Screening Program is voluntary but is strongly encouraged since this program will replace Sentinel Surveillance Testing.
- K-12 districts that want to participate the COVID19 Screening Program will enroll with the Department of Education.
- Because of the intricacies of this program, rolling enrollment will not be initially offered; on-boarding can take 4-6 weeks.
- District/school participation in the program should be determined in the coming month.
- School enrollment information will be used to distribute educational materials, guidance and documents to participating schools/districts.



COVID19 Screening Program: Participant Enrollment

- Student and adult participation in the COVID19 Screening Program is voluntary but is strongly encouraged as a critical mitigation strategy to prevent asymptomatic spread of COVID19.
- Students and adults should be provided with an opt-in enrollment process that establishes testing consent for the duration of the 2021-2022 academic school year.
- Individual enrollment and consent can be rescinded at anytime during the school year. However, once removed from the program, reentering the program may not be feasible.

COVID19 Screening Program: Location Selection

- K-12 schools and contracted testing teams can work together to find the best location for specimen collection and testing.
- Consideration should be given to the following when selecting a location for specimen collection and testing:
 - ✓ Away from high-traffic areas
 - ✓ Open area with good ventilation (but no fans)
 - ✓ Ensures privacy for individual being tested
 - ✓ Can be sanitized between each test performed
- Specimen collection and testing sites might include a large, open room, or a room separated from staff and children. Specimen collection can be performed outside in good weather, but testing must be performed in a climate-controlled environment.

COVID19 Screening Program: Specimen Collection Through Result Reporting

- Contracted testing teams will provide oversight and staffing for all testing related elements of the COVID19 Screening Program. This includes:
 - ✓ Specimen collection
 - ✓ Antigen testing
 - ✓ Result reporting
 - ✓ Waste management
- Schools may be asked to support the specimen collection process
- Schools will be asked to provide waste receptacles for soiled PPE and used specimen collection and testing supplies, and to establish a result reporting liaison.

What are the Roles of K-12 Schools in the COVID19 Screening Program?

- Enroll in the COVID19 screening program through SDDOE by June 11, 2021.
- Establish and (or update) the testing consent process.
 - Some districts/school already have a consent process in place for diagnostic testing which can be adapted for the COVID19 Screening Program.
 - The vendor has an electronic consent process that can be leveraged for screening testing.
- Work with local contractors to complete the following:
 - Determine the best on-campus location for specimen collection and testing
 - Design an efficient specimen collection process that minimizes impact on classroom time
 - Support specimen collection with assistance from adult staff members
 - Establish a liaison with the contracted testing team for result reporting
 - Continue to work with SDDOH for contact tracing

What are the Roles of the Contracted Testing Teams in the COVID19 Screening Program?

- Testing teams will work with schools to do the following:
 - Navigate consent process for student and adult participants
 - Find a suitable location for specimen collection and testing
 - Test specimens using a FDA EUA approved antigen test
 - Report all results to a school liaison, SDDOH, and parent/guardian (if student)
 - Manage all waste from the specimen collection and testing process
- Testing teams will provide:
 - All personal protective equipment for the testing team
 - All specimen collection supplies
 - All testing supplies
 - All reporting capabilities
 - Waste management



What are the Roles of the State in the COVID19 Screening Program?

- South Dakota Department of Education:
 - Facilitate the district/school enrollment process.
 - Help facilitate the opt-in consent process to determine final number of student and adult enrollees in the COVID19 Screening Program.
- South Dakota Department of Health:
 - Cover all expenses related to this testing program.
 - Provide PPE to K-12 schools in support of DOH-sponsored testing initiatives.
 - Coordinate with contractors who will perform specimen collection, testing, and reporting services, the manufacturer of the tests that will be use in support of the COVID19 Screening Program.
 - Offer ongoing support for the duration of this program.

COVID19 Screening Testing: Roles at a Glance

Activity	SDDOH	SDDOE	K-12 Schools	Testing Teams
Funding	✓			
School Enrollment		✓	✓	
Consent Process	Support	Support	✓	
Participant Enrollment		Support	✓	
Location Evaluation			✓	✓
Specimen Collection			Support	✓
Testing				✓
School Reporting				✓
State Reporting				✓
Federal Reporting	✓			



What Would the COVID19 Screening Process Look Like in My School?

- Each school will have different needs based on location and enrollment in the COVID19 Screening Program but the same basic workflow applies to most schools:
 1. Contracted testing team arrives at school and checks-in
 2. Testing team dons PPE in preparation for specimen collection
 3. Students and staff enrolled in the program report to the specimen collection location
 - Participant ID is confirmed and specimen is collected
 - This process takes 30-90 seconds per participant
 4. Following specimen collection, students and staff resume normal daily activities while local contractors perform antigen testing
 5. All results are shared with the school and the SD Department of Health

A Few More Questions...and Answers!

Q: Where will contracted testing teams come from?

A: The goal is to hire testing teams from communities close to the districts/schools they will serve.

Q: Will all weekly testing for my school be performed in a single day?

A: This will be based on participant enrollment. For some schools, all testing may be performed in a single day. For some schools, testing may need to be spread over multiple days.

Q: Will my school have a dedicated testing team?

A: This will be based on school and participant enrollment. Some testing teams may be assigned to a single school or district while some contracted testing teams may travel between districts.

Q: Is contact tracing support provided by the testing teams?

A: SDDOH is working to determine the level of support testing teams can provide to schools for contact tracing.

Contact Tracing, 2021-2022

CDC Guidance

- Changes to guidance remain ongoing
- As guidance released, SD-DOH will review and evaluate implementation

Benefits of Contact Tracing

- Key public health strategy for controlling infectious disease outbreaks
- Contact tracing remains important in largely unvaccinated populations and in congregate settings
- Limits potential for further transmission within work settings, home, school, and community
- Allows SD-DOH to connect with clients and offer additional guidance and services

Testing Available to Families

- Home test kits
 - Available for direct-to-consumer purchase
 - Schools will need to determine if they accept these tests and if so, what type of documentation you will require
 - SD-DOH unable to verify due to lack of reporting by tester
 - If a school is made aware of a positive from these tests, please report to SD-DOH

Questions?



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